

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

*of*

INVESTIGATION

Declassification authority  
derived from FBI Automatic  
Declassification Guide

Screened by WARA (RC-F) Date:  
08-21-2017 FOIA Case Number:  
F6716 DOGID: 62971389

SERIALS 1-

100-HQ-462128

SECTION 1



USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

F B I

Date: 11/10/70

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTELAIR MAIL

(Priority)

Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. Sullivan  
 Mr. Mohr  
 Mr. Bishop  
 Mr. Brennan CDT  
 Mr. Callahan  
 Mr. Casper  
 Mr. Conrad  
 Mr. Felt  
 Mr. Gale  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Tavel  
 Mr. Walters  
 Mr. Soyars  
 Tele. Room  
 Miss Holmes  
 Miss Gandy

~~RECEIVED~~

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE (100-NEW) (P)

SUBJECT: GENE L. MASON  
SM - MISCELLANEOUS

*10/15/70*

On 10/15/70, LOUIS J. CEASE, Office Manager, American Mutual Insurance Company, 496 Southland Drive, Lexington, Kentucky, telephonically advised SA FENTON T. SCHOLL that his wife, SARAH, attends a seminar in Judicial Government at the University of Kentucky (UK), in Lexington, Kentucky. The class meets in the home of political science Professor GENE L. MASON, 458 West Third, Lexington, Kentucky, on Wednesday nights. He added that his wife informed him the night before that at a recent seminar, an individual by the name of GATEWOOD (LNU) made a statement that within the next month or so, some of the students would bomb a building on the UK campus. CEASE added that GATEWOOD is friendly with KAREY MAY and JULIAN KENNAMER, two members of the class.

CEASE continued that his wife would not talk to the FBI and was unaware that he was reporting same.

3-Bureau (RM)

~~REC-14~~

4-Louisville

(2 - 100-GENE L. MASON)

(2 - 100-5637) (GATEWOOD GALBRAITH)

FTS/pkd

(7)

462128

25 DEC 3 1970

Deleted Copy Sent Mason  
by Letter Dated 6-24-76 + 11-19-76  
Per FOIPA Request b9c

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

LS 100-NEW

It is to be noted that MAY and KENNAMER are both associated with the Student Mobilization Committee at UK and are currently under investigation by the Louisville Division. Further, KENNAMER, MAY and GATEWOOD GALBRAITH are officials of the ~~Grosvenor Street Zoological Gardens, Inc.~~, (also known as ~~Grosvenor Street Zoo~~), 305 Grosvenor Street, Lexington, Kentucky, which appears to be the off-campus headquarters of SMC, according to [redacted]

On 10/19/70, KENNETH BRANDENBURG, Assistant to the Dean of Students, UK, made available to SA SCHOLL a list of students for the above mentioned seminar which according to BRANDENBURG was not authorized to be held off-campus. The list did not contain the name of anyone with the first name GATEWOOD. BRANDENBURG advised that students ROBERT KOVEN and JAMES MC NEW listed as members of this class were both personally known to BRANDENBURG and he felt were reliable and responsible individuals.

On 10/20/70, ROBERT KOVEN was contacted at his residence, Creekside Apartments, Apt. I-37, Lexington, Kentucky by SA SCHOLL. KOVEN was advised that he was being contacted in regard to the reported statement by an individual that in the Wednesday night seminar held at 458 West Third an individual made a remark to the effect that a UK building would be blown up in the near future, by a group of students. He was further advised that the inquiry was not concerned with the subject matter of the class or the professor but only with the statement made by one of those attending the class.

KOVEN stated he attended the seminar on Wednesday, night, October 14, 1970, at the home of Professor GENE MASON and that GATEWOOD GALBRAITH attends this class. He considered GALBRAITH capable of violence and mentally deraigned but did not recall him making any statement concerning bombing of buildings. KOVEN volunteered that he would call the FBI if he heard of any violence proposed by any one in the class or out.

LS 100-NEW

On 10/20/70, JAMES MC NEW, Kappa Alpha Fraternity House, Lexington, Kentucky, was contacted telephonically by SA SCHOLL and arrangement was made to meet with him at the intersection of Rose Avenue and Avenue of Champions in Lexington on the morning of 10/21/70.

On 10/21/70, MC NEW was contacted at the above mentioned intersection and advised of the purpose of the interview. It was also stressed to him that the inquiry did not concern Professor MASON or the classroom subject matter. MC NEW stated that on 10/14/70, GATEWOOD GALBRAITH, whom he considers not mentally sound, made a statement that he believed that some of the students would blow up a building on the campus within a month. He added that neither he nor any other student take GALBRAITH serious. MC NEW added that GALBRAITH appears to be a loner and does not represent any group on the campus or otherwise.

For the information of the Bureau, Professor GENE L. MASON is appealing a conviction on charges of knowingly receiving a stolen typewriter. His contract with UK is not being renewed as a result of this conviction.

Also for the information of the Bureau, on 11/9/70,

Lexington, Kentucky on a warrant for violation of SSA. Professor GENE MASON was present during this arrest.

"The Lexington Herald", a daily newspaper in Lexington, Kentucky in its issue of 11/10/70 on page 1, contains an article captioned "Mason Protests UK Aid to FBI."

This article reflects that MASON has charged the UK Administration with impropriety in the release to the FBI the list of students in his class. The article states he is considering seeking a USDC injunction to prevent the FBI from investigating his students.

LS 100-NEW

MASON states in the article that the FBI was investigating remarks made six weeks ago by a participant in one of his classes, GATEWOOD GALBRAITH, who had remarked that the black community here was a smoldering powder keg as were some segments of the student community and the CROSSEN trial would increase the likelihood that buildings would be bombed. MASON stated that GALBRAITH added he did not know of anyone who would resort to such violence but believes violent protest would take place.

CROSSEN is Doctor PHILIP CROSSEN, who was convicted this fall on charges stemming from a rock music festival held on his farm in Lexington, Kentucky.

The article quotes a statement by JACK B. HALL, UK Dean of Students and ROBERT G. ZUMWINKLE, Vice President for Social Affairs:

"In mid-October a Federal agency in cooperation with the UK Safety and Security Department, approached the Dean of Students' Office and requested a list of students enrolled in a specific class at the University.

"The request pertained not only to the possibility of violation of law but to the physical safety and welfare of the University community. The class roll was provided to the agency.

"In our judgment, such action by appropriate University officials was both proper and necessary. The University was acting in the interest of protecting members of the University community against possible serious physical harm.

"Furthermore, Kentucky State law prescribes that: All student records shall be made available upon request to any Federal or Local law enforcement agency and any Court of Law."

LS 100-NEW

The entire article mentioned above is being forwarded to the Bureau under separate cover.

No active investigation is being conducted concerning Professor GENE MASON; however, the Louisville Division will at Lexington, Kentucky, follow through established sources further pertinent developments in this matter.

- 5 -

100 sen 1

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# FBI Investigation On UK Campus Is Questionable

IT IS DISTURBING, and deeply so, that the FBI apparently has begun an investigation, based on the flimsiest of excuses, of a University of Kentucky class taught by controversial instructor Gene Mason. Such a probe can serve only to intimidate other professors and students and could inflict immeasurable damage on the concept and practice of academic freedom at the Lexington campus.

The investigation reportedly was initiated after a student in Mr. Mason's seminar on political trials made reference to the possibility that "burning or bombing" might result from the recent conviction of Lexington physician Phillip S. Crossen on charges stemming from a rock festival held at his farm. According to Mr. Mason, the student's statement represented an opinion rather than a call for violent action.

This hardly seems to justify the intrusion of the FBI. Indeed, the question must be raised as to whether the investigation is aimed more at Mr. Mason, who has been involved in a number of controversial causes recently, than at the students.

If this is an example of why and how the FBI intends to keep a check on "subversive" elements on our nation's campuses, then there is genuine reason to fear that the effect, if not the purpose, will be to intimidate students and professors and repress dissent.

Equally disturbing was the docile acquiescence of the University administration, which provided the FBI with a list of students enrolled in Mr. Mason's class. While this information is neither privileged nor secret, it seems that the University could have conducted its own preliminary investigation to determine whether the FBI's presence on campus was even necessary.

By subordinating its authority on campus to the FBI for such a seemingly minor incident, the administration well may have harmed the mutual trust and faith that must exist between students, faculty and administrators for the university to perform its functions as an educational institution.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

— Editorial Page  
— Courier-Journal  
— Louisville, Ky.  
—  
—  
—  
—  
—

Date: 11-11-70  
Edition: Morning  
Author:  
Editor: Barry Bingham  
Title:

Character:

or

Classification: 100- 5661  
Submitting Office: LS  
 Being Investigated

100-462128-

ENCLOSURE

CARTOON

FBI

Date: November 12, 1970

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority)

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Felt  
Mr. Gale  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Walters  
Mr. S. Felt  
Title Room  
Miss Holmes  
Miss Gandy

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI      ATTENTION: CRIME RECORDS DIVISION  
 FROM : SAC, LOUISVILLE  
 SUBJECT: THE COURIER-JOURNAL  
         LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY  
         11/11/70 EDITION

*Re Louisville airtel to Bureau 11/10/70, captioned,  
 "GENE L. MASON, SM - MISCELLANEOUS."*

Enclosed is a copy of an editorial which appeared in the 11/11/70 edition of The Courier-Journal. The editorial makes reference to an inquiry as to a class being conducted by GENE L. MASON at his home in Lexington, Kentucky, relative to "Political Science." As referenced airtel indicated, MASON is a Professor at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. MASON had no authority from the University to conduct any type of class at his residence. Information has been obtained that comments were made that students would bomb a building on the University of Kentucky campus at one of the classes in the home of MASON. Bureau can rest assured that any time we obtain any inkling of any information by anyone, I don't care whom, that they are allegedly going to institute a bombing, we are going to check it out.

To characterize MASON, he is presently appealing a conviction on charges of knowingly receiving a stolen typewriter and further the University is not renewing his contract.

As the Bureau has previously been advised on numerous occasions, the publishers of this newspaper do not hesitate to print unfavorable editorials concerning the Bureau. The paper is anti-Bureau in particular and anti-law enforcement in general.

Certainly no purpose would be served in contacting the editor and straightening him out on his editorial, coupled with the fact he does not deserve the privilege of being contacted.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 1) *100-46212-8*  
 2 - Louisville (1 100-566 NOT RECORDED  
 FCF:ww      1 80-20184 MAR 8 1971

(4)

*3/6*  
 Approved: *33 MAR 18 1971*  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

ORIGINAL FILED 94-8-10 22

ALBERT B. CHANDLER

191 ELM STREET  
VERMILLION, KENTUCKY 40180

November 16, 1970

Mr. Hoffman  
Mr. [unclear]  
Mr. [unclear]  
Mr. [unclear] G.B.  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Cooper  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Felt  
Mr. [unclear]  
Mr. [unclear]  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Walters  
Mr. S. [unclear]  
Tele. Room  
Miss Holmes  
Miss Gandy

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Edgar:

The enclosed newspaper clipping regarding Dr. Robert Sedler is self-explanatory. This man ought to be carefully watched by the FBI.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

*A. B. Chandler*

Albert. B. Chandler

ABC:db

Encl:

100-462128-  
NOT RECORDED  
184 MAR 8 1971

*EXPOSURE NOT RECEIVED  
ATTACHED WHEN FOR FILING 2/29/71  
FOR UNIT UNABLE TO LOCATE  
SERVICE UNIT P.O. CONNELL 3/3/71  
(Sel)*

Mailing List
11-28-70
Change Noted
SLR
6

*add'd added*

*6 FEB 24 1971*

*copy made and recd from [unclear]*

November 23, 1970

100-462128-

*w 18*  
Honorable Albert B. Chandler  
191 Elm Street  
Versailles, Kentucky 40383

Dear "Happy":

I have received your letter of November 16th,<sup>at</sup> with enclosure, and very much appreciate your thoughtfulness in bringing this information to my attention.

Sincerely,  
Eugan

MAILED 24:  
NOV 23 1970  
COMM-FBI

*R B*  
NOTE: Former Governor Chandler is on the Special Correspondents List and is known to the Director on a first-name basis. Enclosure to his letter is a newspaper clipping from "The Lexington Herald" issue of 11-12-70 concerning statement made by Dr. Robert Sedler of the University of Kentucky criticizing the FBI concerning an investigation relating to threatened burnings or bombings of buildings at the University of Kentucky. Bufiles disclose Dr. Sedler has in the past been critical of government operations and has been involved with New Left activities. Gene L. Mason, a professor at the University of Kentucky, is subject of a pending security investigation. His class to which the newspaper article refers was held at his residence without permission of the university authorities. Sources reported comments at this meeting in Mason's home concerning possible burnings or bombings of buildings made by one Gatewood Galbraith. The Louisville Office obtained the names of those in attendance and interviewed selected individuals concerning this matter

MSR:njk (3)

NOTE CONTINUED PAGE TWO.

55 MAR 18 1971 MAIL ROOM TYPE UNIT

316

ORIGINAL FILED NOV 24 - 1971 - 6556 - 82

Honorable Albert B. Chandler

NOTE CONTINUED: and Galbraith was described as possibly mentally deranged and capable of violence. "Courier-Journal" in Louisville on 11-11-70 carried a similar critical editorial and SAC Louisville by airtel 11-12-70 furnished background concerning this matter. Upon approval of this communication it should be routed to the Domestic Intelligence Division for review and any further action warranted.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. C. D. Brennan

FROM : R. L. Shackelford

SUBJECT: STUDENT AGITATION, UNIVERSITY  
OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY  
SECURITY MATTER - MISCELLANEOUS

- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop

DATE: 12/1/70

- 1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan  
1 - Mr. R. L. Shackelford  
1 - Mr. J. W. O'Rourke

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Brennan, C.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Senator Marlow W. Cook (R-Kentucky), on 11/27/70, forwarded a letter which he received from Steve Bright, Student Body President, University of Kentucky (UK), Lexington, Kentucky, together with Xerox copy of several articles which appeared in "The Kentucky Kernel," a UK publication, and an article which appeared in "The Courier Journal," a daily newspaper, Louisville, Kentucky, which charged FBI interference in a seminar at which a statement was made relative to a threat to bomb a building on the UK campus. Bright expressed concern about the threat to academic freedom posed by an "inappropriate intrusion into the classroom by the FBI." Senator Cook is not on the Special Correspondents List; however, we have had limited official contact with him in the past.

On 10/15/70 information was received from the husband of a student attending a seminar at the UK conducted by Professor Gene L. Mason at his residence who reported that at a recent seminar one Gatewood Galbraith made a statement that within the next month or so some students would bomb a UK building. On 10/19/70 the Assistant to the Dean of Students made available to Special Agent personnel of the Louisville Office a list of students attending the seminar. The seminar was not authorized to be held off campus and the list of students did not contain Galbraith's name. Two students recommended by the Assistant to the Dean of Students were interviewed for the specific purpose of obtaining information concerning the bomb threat and they described Galbraith as being mentally deranged and capable of violence. One of the students advised that Galbraith did make a statement that he believed some of the students would blow up a campus building.

The 11/10/70 issue of "The Lexington Herald," a daily Lexington, Kentucky, newspaper, reported that Mason charged the UK administration with impropriety in releasing the names of his students to the Bureau and was considering an injunction to prevent FBI investigation of his students. He charged the FBI was

Enclosure sent 12-2-70

JWO:djr Jap 100-462128-  
(6)

NOT RECORDED

1970  
CONTINUED - OVER

DEC 16 1970

57 DEC 22 1970

Memorandum to Mr. C. D. Brennan  
RE: STUDENT AGITATION, UNIVERSITY  
OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

investigating a remark made by Galbraith that the black community was a smoldering powder keg as were segments of the student community and that the trial of Doctor Phillip Crossen would insure the likelihood that buildings would be bombed. Crossen was recently convicted on charges arising from a rock music festival held on his farm in Lexington, Kentucky. The article also contained a statement from UK officials that Kentucky State law prescribes that all student records may be made available upon request of any Federal or local law enforcement agency or court of law and that the University acted in the interest of protecting the physical safety and welfare of the student community.

Mason is currently appealing a conviction on charges of knowingly receiving a stolen typewriter and his contract is not being renewed. He was active in the Southern Conference Education Fund, Incorporated, which was cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities as being active in the racial-civil rights field. Steve Bright recently debated Vice President Spiro Agnew on television regarding campus violence and was convicted in the Spring of 1969 of disorderly conduct in connection with a demonstration at UK.

Based on available information, Louisville was on sound ground in initiating an inquiry relative to the threat to bomb a campus building. Attached letter to Senator Cook notes that Bright's allegations regarding FBI intrusion into classroom activities are false and that all investigations undertaken by the FBI are conducted under statutory authority or by direction of the President or Attorney General.

RECOMMENDATION:

Attached letter to Senator Cook be approved and sent.

# NEPA NEWS

Editorial Board:

Gene Mason  
Monty Neill  
Ron Sturrup

(603) 823-8501

July 25, 1975

Senator Thomas McIntyre  
U. S. Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator McIntyre:

I noted in an AP release a few weeks ago that Representative Robert F. Drinan of Massachusetts had been able to secure his F.B.I. file by paying \$.10 a page for what it contains.

I would appreciate it if you would submit a similar request in my behalf to F.B.I. Director Clarence M. Kelly.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance, I remain,

Sincerely yours,



Gene L. Mason  
Director

GLM:jh

100-442128-1X

62-115530 6423

Franconia, New Hampshire 03580

ENCLOSURE

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
CHAIRMAN: SUBCOMMITTEE ON RESEARCH  
AND DEVELOPMENT  
BANKING, HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
CHAIRMAN: SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS  
CHAIRMAN: SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT REGULATION

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

July 31, 1975

THOMAS J. MCINTYRE  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

OFFICES:  
SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
202-224-2841  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
FEDERAL BUILDING  
603-669-1232  
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03105  
FEDERAL BUILDING  
603-436-7720  
PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03801

Mr. Clarence M. Kelley, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Kelley:

I am enclosing a letter which has been received from Mr. Gene L. Mason, Director, NEPA News, Franconia, New Hampshire 03580 who is desirous of securing his F.B.I. file.

Undoubtedly you will be in direct communication with Mr. Mason about this matter and it would be appreciated if I could be kept posted.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely

Thomas J. McIntyre,  
United States Senator

TJM:rk  
Enclosure

ENCLOSURE

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep.-A.D.-Adm.	_____
Dep.-A.D.-Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Admin.	_____
Comp. Syst.	_____
Ext. Affairs	_____
Files & Com.	_____
Gen. Inv.	_____
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Spec. Inv.	_____
Training	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director Sec'y	_____

30 AUG 1 1975 RC

EX-105 100-462128-1X  
REC-37 62-115530-543

AUG 2 1975

Retired 6/2/78  
5/4/38 CORRESPONDENCE

August 14, 1975

100-462128-IX

REC-81  
L-10 100-462128-5438  
1 - Mr. Mintz  
Office of Congressional  
Affairs

Honorable Thomas J. McIntyre  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator McIntyre:

Your communication of July 31st, enclosing the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of Gene L. Mason of Franconia, New Hampshire, was received by the FBI on August 4th.

We are handling Mr. Mason's request in accordance with the provisions of the FOIA and will respond directly to him.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

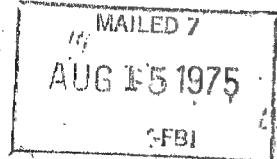
1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosures (2)  
Attention: Susan M. Hauser

NOTE: See letter to Gene L. Mason, same date.

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

jcs:mjs (6)

mjs



MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

Return to Subject 5438

GPO 954-546

*REC-81*

100-462128-IX

August 14, 1975

X 100-462128-5473

Mr. Gene L. Mason  
Director  
SEPA News  
Franconia, New Hampshire 03580

Dear Mr. Mason:

This is to acknowledge your recently received Freedom of Information Act request. Based on the limited information you provided, it is not possible to make an accurate search of our central records. In order to facilitate our searching procedures, please furnish the following:

complete name:

date and place of birth:

prior addresses:

employments:

additional identifying data:

Upon receipt of the above information, a search of our files will be conducted and your request will thereafter be processed in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 7
AUG 15 1975
FBI

1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure  
Attention: Susan M. Hauser

jcs:mjs (5)

mp  
m/s  
m/s  
m/s

jeff/mw

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Return to SORRY 5473 GPO 954-546

REC-81

100-462128-IX

~~100-462128-5493~~

January 7, 1976

8728

4-101 Mr. Gene L. Mason

Director

NEPA News

Franconia, New Hampshire 03580

Dear Mr. Mason:

This letter is in reference to my previous communication concerning your Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request.

An exceedingly heavy volume of FOIPA requests has been received these past few months. Additionally, court deadlines involving certain historical cases of considerable scope have been imposed upon the FBI. Despite successive expansions of our staff responsible for FOIPA matters, substantial delays in processing requests continue.

The FBI has 5,862 FOIPA requests on hand. Processing has begun, and is in various stages of completion on 1,029 of those cases. It will not be possible for the FBI to meet all workday deadlines previously made. In an effort to deal fairly with any request requiring the retrieval, processing and duplication of documents, each request is being handled in chronological order based on the date of receipt. Please be assured that your request is being handled as equitably as possible and that all documents which can be released will be made available at the earliest possible date.

To expedite release of any documents which may pertain to you, please submit your notarized signature. This procedure is designed to insure that information concerning an individual is released only to that person.

Your patience and cooperation will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

D. M. Kelley  
Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

1 - The Deputy Attorney General  
Attention: Susan M. Desser

jcs:ggl (5)  
jcs

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

GPO : 1975 O - 569-920

3-27-  
February 27, 1976

NY 101 100-462128-1X

REC-81 ~~62-115530 5422~~

Mr. Gene L. Mason  
Director of Program Development  
Bard College  
Annandale -on- Hudson, New York 12504

Dear Mr. Mason:

In my previous letter dated January 7, 1976 you were requested to submit your notarized signature. To date, it has not been received.

A notarized signature is requested for verification of identity and to insure that documents are released only to an individual having a right of access to the information. Please be advised no processing will commence until your notarized signature is received.

MAILED 6

FEB 27 1976

FBI

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

1 - The Deputy Attorney General  
Attention: Susan M. Hauser

NOTE: Location and processing of records ~~is~~ are not required by law and would be wasteful if the requester is not entitled to the documents and the request is spurious.

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Secy. \_\_\_\_\_

jcs:amm (5)

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MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

Subj 5438  
P. Shappley

GPO : 1975 O - 569

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Section

12:29, 19<sup>75</sup>

- Name Searching Unit, 4543 JEH-FBI Bldg.  
 Service Unit, 4654 JEH-FBI Bldg.  
 Forward to File Review  
 Attention: Schutte  
 Return to Cunningham 5438 5561

Supervisor Room Ext.

---

**Type of References Requested:**

- Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
 All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
 Subversive References Only  
 Nonsubversive References Only  
 Main \_\_\_\_\_ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

- Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
 Buildup       Variations

Subject GENE LYLE MASON  
Birthdate & Place 6-20-40 TEXAS

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

Address

~~CS~~ Franconia, N. H.

## Localities .

R# \_\_\_\_\_ Date 12/29 Searcher Initials SC

Prod. \_\_\_\_\_

FILE NUMBER                    SERIAL

NK

Gene L.

N 100-462128

1A 176-2482

F01A 62-115530-5493 F01A

Gene

N1 87-122634

N1 62-112488-4

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

August 14, 1975

*erry*  
Mr. Gene L. Mason  
Director  
NEPA News  
Franconia, New Hampshire 03580

Gene L. Mason

Dear Mr. Mason:

This is to acknowledge your recently received Freedom of Information Act request. Based on the limited information you provided, it is not possible to make an accurate search of our central records. In order to facilitate our searching procedures, please furnish the following:

complete name: Gene Lyle Mason

date and place of birth: 6/10/40 Brownfield, Texas

prior addresses: Franconia, N.H.; Lexington, Ky.; Louisville, Ky.

Denton, Tex.  
employments: Franconia College, University of Ky., University of Ky.

additional identifying data:

Upon receipt of the above information, a search of our files will be conducted and your request will thereafter be processed in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

*DAS* Sincerely yours,

*MCT* *DAS*  
Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

~~RECORDED~~  
20 AUG 28 1975  
18 - 8-30-76

BARD COLLEGE  
ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON  
NEW YORK 12504

New address

Director of Program Development

Bard College

Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y. 12504



ACK:  
1-2-76-001  
1-2-76-001

*F.O.I.A.*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. LEAVITT *✓*

FROM : Mr. McDermott

SUBJECT: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PRIVACY ACTS (FOIPA)  
REQUEST RE: GENE L. MASON

DATE: 4-23-76

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

Attached is a copy of the FOIPA request and pertinent files and/or excised documents which appear subject to disclosure. Processing of same must be completed and returned to FOIPA within ( ) working days. Addendum should include total Agent time expended in the review and justification for serials remaining or newly classified. Do not mark, alter or place any notations on the excised documents.

Questions on this matter should be discussed with BETTY PRICE, Room 5438 JEH, extension 5361.

RECOMMENDATION(S): (only items checked apply)

- (✓) 1. That the Intelligence Division:  
( ) a. Review the classification of serial(s) \_\_\_\_\_ to insure these documents \_\_\_\_\_ should remain classified, indicating the level of classification of each classified paragraph. Declassification actions should be included in the addendum.  
(✓) b. Review the balance of the files particularly serial(s) 176-2482 and 100-462128, to determine if currently unclassified serials warrant classification, noting the classification level of each classified paragraph.

(✓) 2. That the INTELLIGENCE Division(s):

review the documents proposed for disclosure and furnish comments stating whether the disclosure would have significant impact upon future investigations and whether any particular disclosure being made involves any sensitive sources, unusual techniques or other special concerns. Issues raised will be reconsidered by the FOIPA Section to determine whether a statutory exemption may be invoked to cover the matter of concern. A detailed review of the disclosure involving considerations of privacy or internal administrative matters is specifically not requested. *EX-FOIA* *REF ID: A8* *JUL 8 1976*

1 - Mr. LEAVITT Attn: TUNSTALL *✓*  
1 - Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ Attn: \_\_\_\_\_  
1 - Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ Attn: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE NOTE ~~ON~~ PAGE 2



*F-251*  
**5 JUL 22 1976**

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

ADDENDUM:      Intelligence Division      6/11/76

J RDS:kle tele

As requested, Bureau files 176-2482 and 100-462128 have been reviewed and it has been determined that the currently unclassified serials do not warrant classification.

The documents prepared for disclosure were reviewed and release would have no significant impact upon future investigations. No sensitive sources, unusual techniques, or other special concerns were noted.

Agent time expended in handling this review totaled  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour.

GTR JGD

(2)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
Boston, Massachusetts

October 11, 1973

GENE L. MASON

The September 24, 1973, issue of the "Manchester Union Leader," a Manchester, New Hampshire daily newspaper, on pages 1 and 8, contains an article by Reporter Arthur C. Egan, Jr., dateline Concord, New Hampshire, which indicates that Governor Neldrim Thomson, Jr., had requested State and Federal prosecutors as well as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), to investigate the activities of a Franconia College professor for possible violations of State and Federal laws in connection with prison agitation.

On October 5, 1973, United States Attorney William Beachman, Concord, New Hampshire, furnished a copy of the letter which has been sent to inmate John Kerrigan at the Massachusetts Correctional Institute (MCI), Walpole, Massachusetts, from Gene L. Mason, a member of the faculty, Franconia College, Franconia, New Hampshire.

The envelope was addressed as follows:

"John Kerrigan  
President, NPRA  
MCI, Walpole  
South Walpole, Mass."

The letter is written on paper with the caption, "New England Prisoners' Association." The letter reads as follows:

- "The Franconia Chpt. is going to put out the NEPA newspaper where SCARV Times left-off. We will have an issue out in 1 mo. We need (1) names

ENCLOSURE

100-462128-3

176-2482-2 Encl p1

"and addresses of families of men in Walpole & other Mass. joints to send a complimentary copy to in hopes they will subscribe; (2) copy for the paper - articles, poetry, graphics, comics, legal briefs, etc. Specifically we would like to publish in the first issue a review approved by NPRA of Burke's recent 144 pp. report on Walpole. It is all over the Manchester Union Leader & our fascist governor is promoting repression here with it. We must attack. Can you help? Can we get someone there to be a regular inside contributor to the paper. The paper will be free to prisoners as long as we can do it. Stay strong.

"Yours in struggle

"/s/ Gene L. Mason"

176-2482-2 End p 2

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Governor Asks

## FBI Probe

## Mason

### Reveals Letter Urging Prisoners to 'Attack'

By ARTHUR C. EGAN JR.

CONCORD — State and federal prosecutors, as well as the FBI, have been asked by Gov. Meldrim Thomson Jr. to investigate the activities of a Franconia College professor for possible violations of state and federal laws in connection with prison agitation.

In a letter Saturday to FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley, the governor identified the professor as Gene L. Mason, a member of the political science department at Franconia College.

name of newspaper, city and state.)

Pg 1,8, Manchester Union Leader, Manchester, N.H.

Date: 9/24/73

Edition: Daily

Author: Arthur C. Egan Jr.

Editor:

Title:

GOVERNOR ASKS FBI  
PROBE MASON

ENCLOSURE

100-462128-3  
176-2482-1  
End.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Mason himself is an ex-convict, having served time in the Kentucky State Reformatory after being convicted of receiving stolen property. He had been sentenced to one year in the state institution, and is currently on five years' probation, according to Kentucky officials.

Gov. Thomson also asked the U.S. attorney for New Hampshire, William Deachman, and N.H. Atty. Gen. Warren Rudman to investigate Mason's activities concerning prison agitation in New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

**Letter to Inmate**

Thomson's letters to the state and federal law enforcement heads were prompted by a handwritten communication sent by Mason to John Kerrigan, an inmate of Walpole State Prison in Massachusetts.

In his letter to Kerrigan, who is president of a prison-inmate rights group, Mason told the Walpole convict, "we must attack." Mason did not elaborate what he meant by "attack," but Walpole has been the scene of several violent confrontations between the inmates and the guards.

Commenting on a recent 144-page report issued recently by Norfolk County District Attorney George Burke on the disturbances at Walpole Prison, Mason told Kerrigan in the letter, "It is all over the Manchester Union Leader."

**'Our Fascist Governor'**

Mason referred to Thomson as "our fascist governor who is promoting regression" in New Hampshire with the Burke report.

The Franconia College professor, in his letter to Kerrigan, revealed that the North Country college will be soon publishing a newspaper devoted to news about prisons, the rights of inmates, and a review of Burke's report on the numerous riots at Walpole.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date:  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor:  
Title:

Mason asked Kerrigan to furnish the college with the names and addresses of the families of Walpole inmates and "other Massachusetts joints" who might subscribe to the newspaper.

For the letter to Kerrigan, the college faculty member used the letterhead of the "New England Prisoners' Association" and an envelope with the return address of "Franconia College."

Gov. Thomson, in his letter to FBI Director Kelley, said, "I am writing to ask the help of the bureau in a threat to the PROBE" Page Eight

## PROBE

*(Continued from Page One)*

security of the N.H. State Prison by Gene L. Mason, a professor of political science at Franconia College.

"Inasmuch as this threat may have violated federal statutes, I would respectfully request your cooperation in making a thorough investigation of this matter."

Thomson also asked the FBI to make a determination "whether any federal funds are used in a palpable attempt to destroy a state institution."

In asking Rudman to probe Mason's activities, Thomson asked the attorney general to render an opinion on whether Mason's letter to the Walpole inmate violated state law by "suggesting an attack on our security system."

### Letter to Deachman

Gov. Thomson's communication to U.S. Atty. Deachman asked the federal prosecutor to determine whether Mason's "call to attack" might have violated federal statutes.

A copy of Mason's handwritten letter was supplied to all of the federal and state officials contacted by the governor. The original copy of the letter was supplied to Gov. Thomson by Massachusetts prison officials who became concerned with the tone of Mason's call "to attack." The letter had been opened and copied as part of the routine check of inmates' mail.

The Franconia college professor has been active in prison agitation since joining the faculty at Franconia. Records at the state reformatory in Kentucky revealed that Mason was hired for his post at Franconia College while he was serving time in the reformatory.

Mason served only a month and four days of his sentence and the records indicate he was released "solely on the efforts of Franconia College authorities."

### Fired by UKy

A one-time member of the faculty at the University of Kentucky, Mason was fired from his job for reasons never disclosed. Officials of the state university, asked about Mason's career there, would only say "he did not leave of his own accord." However, Kentucky officials refused to elaborate on the circumstances surrounding his firing.

Mason has been active in prison circles in Massachusetts and at one time was a so-called "civilian observer" in Cell Block 10 at Walpole, which was the scene of a confrontation with authorities.

Records at Walpole disclosed that Mason signed the book there as an "observer" during daytime hours, a time when a college professor would normally be participating in his classroom instruction.

Mason has also participated in demonstrations in Concord protesting the treatment of inmates of the N.H. State Prison.

It is known that investigators from Washington have previously expressed an interest in Mason's activities and that of a Concord woman and a Bedford woman in connection with prison agitation.

*(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)*

Date:  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor:  
Title:

"The Lexington Herald", a daily newspaper in Lexington, Kentucky in its issue of 11/10/70 on page 1, contains an article captioned "Mason Protests UK Aid to FBI."

This article reflects that MASON has charged the UK Administration with impropriety in the release to the FBI the list of students in his class. The article states he is considering seeking a USDC injunction to prevent the FBI from investigating his students.

ENCLOSURE

100-462128-1 100-462128-1 p3



MASON states in the article that the FBI was investigating remarks made six weeks ago by a participant in one of his classes, GATEWOOD GALBRAITH, who had remarked that the black community here was a smoldering powder keg as were some segments of the student community and the CROSSEN trial would increase the likelihood that buildings would be bombed. MASON stated that GALBRAITH added he did not know of anyone who would resort to such violence but believes violent protest would take place.

100-462128-1 p4

# FBI Investigation On UK Campus Is Questionable

IT IS DISTURBING, and deeply so, that the FBI apparently has begun an investigation, based on the flimsiest of excuses, of a University of Kentucky class taught by controversial instructor Gene Mason. Such a probe can serve only to intimidate other professors and students and could inflict immeasurable damage on the concept and practice of academic freedom at the Lexington campus.

The investigation reportedly was initiated after a student in Mr. Mason's seminar on political trials made reference to the possibility that "burning or bombing" might result from the recent conviction of Lexington physician Phillip S. Crossen on charges stemming from a rock festival held at his farm. According to Mr. Mason, the student's statement represented an opinion rather than a call for violent action.

This hardly seems to justify the intrusion of the FBI. Indeed, the question must be raised as to whether the investigation is aimed more at Mr. Mason, who has been involved in a number of controversial causes recently, than at the students.

If this is an example of why and how the FBI intends to keep a check on "subversive" elements on our nation's campuses, then there is genuine reason to fear that the effect, if not the purpose, will be to intimidate students and professors and repress dissent.

Equally disturbing was the docile acquiescence of the University administration, which provided the FBI with a list of students enrolled in Mr. Mason's class. While this information is neither privileged nor secret, it seems that the University could have conducted its own preliminary investigation to determine whether the FBI's presence on campus was even necessary.

By subordinating its authority on campus to the FBI for such a seemingly minor incident, the administration well may have injured the mutual trust and faith that must exist between students, faculty and administrators for the university to perform its functions as an educational institution.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

- Editorial Page
- Courier-Journal
- Louisville, Ky.
- 
- 
- 

Date: 11-11-70  
Edition: Morning  
Author:  
Editor:  
Title: Barry Bingham

ENCLOSURE

100-462128-3  
100-462128-3

EX-110

REC-83

100-463128-3

June 24, 1976

Mr. Gene L. Mason  
Director of Program Development  
Bard College  
Annandale - on - Hudson, New York 12504

Dear Mr. Mason:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request.

Enclosed are copies of documents from our files. Excisions have been made from these documents and other documents have been withheld in their entirety in order to protect materials which are exempted from disclosure by the following subsections of Title 5, United States Code, Section 552:

- (b) (2) materials related solely to the internal rules and practices of the FBI;
- (b) (7) investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes, the disclosure of which would:

  - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of another person;
  - (D) reveal the identity of an individual who has furnished information to the FBI under confidential circumstances or reveal information furnished only by such a person and not apparently known to the public or otherwise accessible to the FBI by overt means.

MAILED 10

JUN 24 1976

FBI

3966

Assoc. Dir.

Dep. AD Adm.

Dep. AD Inv.

Asst. Dir.:

Adm. Serv.

Ext. Affairs

Fin. & Pers.

Gen. Inv.

Ident.

Inspection

Intell.

Laboratory

Legal Coun.

Plan. & Eval.

Rec. Mgmt.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

Spec. Inv.

Training

Telephone Rm.

Director Sec'y

If you believe your name may have been recorded by the FBI incident to the investigation of other persons or some organization, please advise us of the details describing the specific incident or occurrence and time frame. Thereafter, further effort will be made to locate, retrieve and process any such records.

JUL 24 1976  
Attention: Susan M. Hauser  
bgp:bsj (5) ROD  
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

PLA 5438

FBI/DOJ

Mr. Gene L. Mason

If you desire a search of our Identification Division records, please comply with the instructions set forth in Attorney General Order 556-73, a copy of which is enclosed.

You have thirty days from receipt of this letter to appeal to the Attorney General from any denial contained herein. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Attorney General (Attention: Freedom of Information Appeals Unit), Washington, D. C. 20530. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal."

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

Enclosures (5)

NOTE: Mason, a college professor who is the subject of two closed files 100-462128 and 176-2482 (no active investigation re: subject in either file), engaged in prison agitation activities in 1973. The files consist of approximately 7 documents and 20 pages. Requester is receiving 4 documents consisting of 8 pages. Documents being released are from 176-2482-1, 2 and 100-462128-N.R., 1.

Deletions were primarily for privacy, confidentiality of persons in contact with the Bureau, material relating to our internal rules and the usual administrative markings.

Files contained no classified documents.

Ident pitch is being used since file mentions a conviction for receiving stolen property.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

February 27, 1976

Mr. Gene L. Mason  
Director of Program Development  
Bard College  
Annandale -on- Hudson, New York 12504

Dear Mr. Mason:

In my previous letter dated January 7, 1976 you were requested to submit your notarized signature. To date, it has not been received.

A notarized signature is requested for verification of identity and to insure that documents are released only to an individual having a right of access to the information. Please be advised no processing will commence until your notarized signature is received.

Sincerely yours,

*Clarence M. Kelley*  
Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

3/31/76

*Susan L. Barich  
Gene L. Mason*

Susan L. Barich  
Box 147-Post Real  
RFD #1-Rte 400, R.R. 13371  
Hector Public No. 140130-30  
Dutchess County, State of New York  
My Commission Expires March 30, 1978

ENCLOSURE

100-462128-4

78



BARD COLLEGE  
ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON  
NEW YORK 12504

March 31, 1976

Clarence M. Kelley, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Kelley:

In accordance with your request, I have enclosed my notarized signature. I trust there will be no further delays in processing.

Very truly yours,

*Gene L. Mason*

Gene L. Mason  
Director of Program Development

Enclosure

ENCLOSURE

5/ JUL 21 1976

EX-110 REC-3 100-462128-4  
20 JUN 1976

Ebqf.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Powers *Plahn*

DATE: 3/30/76

FROM : D. R. Williams *DRW*

SUBJECT: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION-PRIVACY ACTS (FOIPA) REQUEST  
OF GENE LYLE MASON

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

HARD COLLEGE ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON N.Y.  
On January 7, 1976, and on February 27, 1976,  
a notarized signature was requested from captioned subject.  
To date, no reply has been received.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the case be closed as the processing of  
records would be an inefficient utilization of manpower.

jcs:paj (3)

*jcs  
paj*

*mb*

100-462128-5

REC-81

~~62115530-15294~~

EX-101

7 MAR 31 1976

*FJPA*



*Plahn*

APR 06 1976

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

*Schultz*

38

BARD COLLEGE  
ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON  
NEW YORK 12504

July 6, 1976

*Gene W. Mason*

*Mr.*  
*St.*  
The Honorable Edward Levi  
Attorney General of the United States  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

Re: Freedom of Information Appeal

My dear Mr. Levi:

After a long series of correspondence to discover if any information about me was contained in FBI files, I received a letter from Clarence M. Kelley, dated June 24, 1976. The letter had attached two newspaper articles which had been written about me and a copy of the Federal Register of 11/28/73 describing rules and regulations concerning "Production or Disclosure of Material and Information". The letter stated "Excisions have been made from these documents and other documents have been withheld in their entirety in order to protect materials which are exempted from disclosure" by subsections of Title 5, U.S. Code, Section 552:

- "(b) (2) materials related solely to the internal rules and practices of the FBI;
- (b) (7) investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes, the disclosure of which would:
  - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of another person;
  - (D) reveal the identity of an individual who has furnished information to the FBI under confidential circumstances or reveal information furnished only by such a person and not apparently known to the public or otherwise accessible to the FBI by overt means."

REC-52

100-462129-6

I formally appeal to you the decision of FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley not to release these documents and his decision to make excisions in the files he did release. I question the right of the FBI to maintain secret documents on me. I can assure you that I already had copies of the article in the Manchester Union-Leader reporting on N.H. Governor Meldrim Thomson's request of an FBI investigation of me and the article from the Louisville Courier Journal calling public attention to FBI harrassment of my students.

9-17-

JUL 9 1976

276-1076  
SAP SEP

The Honorable Edward Levi  
Attorney General of the United States

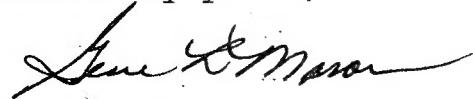
July 6, 1976  
Page two

For your interest, I enclose not only the material I received from Mr. Kelley but also an article I authored a few years ago entitled "The Future of Repression," which was published in Robert Paul Wolff's 1984 Revisited. I described in that article certain official practices regarding the use of secret information and projected the consequences of these practices into the coming decade. In your review of my appeal, I would appreciate your reading my views and sharing them with Mr. Kelley.

I look forward to your decision. I have read much of your written work, and was pleased with the directions of your comments at Bard's inauguration of Leon Botstein regarding the criminal justice system (especially those regarding the indeterminate sentence).

In your review of this decision, I will be glad to cooperate in providing any needed information, and I hope that Mr. Kelley will be equally cooperative.

Sincerely yours,



Gene L. Mason, Director  
Program Development and  
Special Projects

GLM/sm  
Enclosures  
xc: Clarence M. Kelley  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation